

Traditional Wisdom, Equity and Community Participation Making the Commercialization of Grasses in Bhyundar Valley, Uttaranchal Himalaya a Success

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KEY WORDS Himalayan Grasslands. Bhyundar Valley. Grass Collection. Social Equity. Commercialization. Community Participation.

ABSTRACT The present study was undertaken in the Bhyundar valley of Uttaranchal with the major objective of finding out the pattern in flow of economy with various user groups through commercialization of grasses. The study has demonstrated that how the traditional wisdom, concept of social equity and community participation have made the commercialization of grass economy a success in terms of community benefit and has added to the economy of the individuals residing in the Bhyundar valley. The concept of community decision making and sharing of resources between various stakeholders has diluted the ill effects of commercialization of any economy. Due to the high influx of tourists in the study area increased the number of mules and horses and thus the feed requirements, the existing system of grass sale could not handle the increased requirements. How the local people have developed their own system for the management of grass collection and the economy.

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